



***Paula Davis, CGFM***  
***Deputy Commissioner***

***Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development***

Paula Davis serves as Deputy Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD). As Deputy Commissioner, Davis holds the responsibility of managing the day to day operations of the department in fulfilling its mission of creating high-skilled, better paying jobs by recruiting new industries and helping existing businesses grow.

Davis brings two decades of finance and administrative experience to the Department of Economic and Community Development and has served in a focused array of positions with the State of Tennessee.

She serves in a dual capacity as the Assistant Commissioner of Administration and Policy Services for the department where she is responsible for overseeing the administration for the legal, policy, personnel, budget and fiscal, internal audit, information systems and research sectors of the department. In addition to her responsibilities within the department, Davis serves as a Governor's appointment to Southern Global Strategies Council of the Southern Growth Policies Board and the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

After graduating from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, the West Tennessee native started her career in state government with the Board of Probation and Paroles Administrative Services Division as an account clerk. She then moved to the Department of Human Services where she served as an eligibility determination counselor.

Davis has also served as a budget administrative coordinator for the Department of Finance and Administration's Division of Budget, where her responsibilities ranged from supervising analysts in reviewing and monitoring departmental budgets to assisting in the development and enforcement of policies and procedures for the division. She also has served as the director of higher education information systems for the Tennessee Higher Education Commission's Fiscal Affairs sector.

Prior to joining the Department of Economic and Community Development, Davis was a legislative budget analysis specialist for the Tennessee Legislature Office of Legislative Budget Analysis for five years. During her tenure she advised legislators and designees on matters pertaining to agencies' budget requests and assisted in drafting and reviewing legislation.

Davis is very involved in a number of community organizations and affiliations. Recently she was named chair of the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Women's Council. She is an active member of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Nashville, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Development (DBE) Advisory Board.

She resides in Smyrna, Tennessee with her husband Attorney James G. Davis.

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